Harpswell Conservation Commission Minutes for Workshop Meeting, June 2, 2009, 3:00 PM, Municipal Office Building, Mountain Road, Harpswell, Maine

Members present: Mary Ann Nahf (chair), Deirdre Strachan, Don Jones, Burr Taylor, Anne Perry, A Nemrow, T. Barrett. Carol Tukey, Town Planner and Marcel Polak, MEACC

Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm by M. Nahf. Minutes of May 19, 2009 approved. Moved by A. Perry, seconded by D. Strachan. Unanimous.

Old Business:

Mission statement update was reviewed and several changes were suggested and made. M. Nahf to send out updated version to members via email.

Vernal Pools. Phippsburg notified HCC that they definitely will not participate in any 2010 mapping effort.

Hildreth Road parcel. Discussed motion of previous week. Would like to re-visit the issue at a later date. D. Jones rescinded his motion of previous week. B. Taylor moved to table for the time being. Seconded by A. Perry. Unanimous.

OSIC Reports:

Lands Conservation: Bonding discussed. No specific parcel in mind now and 2010 may not be the right time to bring before Town Meeting. TPL funds available for 18-24 months. Town can bond without land that would qualify for the matching funds on 5:1 basis. A history of the long reach and doughty point lots was given by D. Strachan. More info on this parcel to be gathered. Bio-blitz might be a possibility. B. Taylor related information received from D. Hackett and J. Henderson regarding easements. Cedar Beach area and the ROW issue discussed. Bethel Point parcel reviewed. HHLT now working on easements there. Poor water quality in Quahog Bay area due to low O2 and poor tidal flushing. Bowdoin College may have some helpful info to share on this issue. Otter Brook may be best preserved with a series of easements. May be as many as 20 parcels abutting the wetlands. Want to try a preserve the freshwater corridor. T. Barrett suggested visiting Cedar Beach on 6/16 after the Concom meeting.

Conservation Education: Bio-blitz might be hard at Hildreth site due to the old clear-cut of woodlands. Nothing set yet but Concom may do something with neighbors in the future. Discussed fertilizer/pesticide issue. Something specific to Harpswell seems more appropriate. B. Taylor suggested seeing what Town and school due for their grass areas. Town of Castine has a good ordinance, M. Nahf will send to HCC members. A. Perry reported that Maine Bd. Of Pesticide Control can help develop something for Harpswell. B. Taylor suggested this may be a good opportunity to get clam/lobster people on board. A. Nemrow discussed the resolution for application of fertilizers and pesticides to selectmen. Change the word organic to non-chemical in the letter. To be reworked for next meeting. Riparian buffers for next meeting as well.

New Business:

T. Barrett mentioned Cliff Trail walk on June 8 at 3pm for Nat'l. Trail Day.

Adjourned at 5:25pm D. Jones, Sec'y.